

# REPORT

## ON

# NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 14th November 1891.

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## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
Fortnightly.				
1	"Ahmadí" ... ..	Tangail, Mymensingh	600	16th October 1891.
2	"Kasipore Nivási" ... ..	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	280	
3	"Navamihir" ... ..	Ghatail, Mymensingh	500	
4	"Uluberia Darpan" ... ..	Uluberia ...	700	
Trimonthly				
5	"Hitakari" ... ..	Kushtea ...	800	
Weekly.				
6	"Bangavási" ... ..	Calcutta ...	20,000	7th November 1891.
7	"Banganivási" ... ..	Ditto ...	8,000	6th ditto.
8	"Burdwán Sanjivani" ... ..	Burdwan ...	335	
9	"Cháruvartá" ... ..	Sherepore, Mymensingh	400	
10	"Dacca Prakásh" ... ..	Dacca ...	2,200	8th ditto.
11	"Education Gazette" ... ..	Hooghly ...	825	6th ditto.
12	"Grámvási" ... ..	Ramkristopore, Howrah	1,000	9th ditto.
13	"Hindu Ranjiká" ... ..	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	212	
14	"Hitavádí" ... ..	Calcutta ...	.....	7th ditto.
15	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi" ... ..	Berhampore ...	.....	
16	"Navayuga" ... ..	Calcutta ...	500	5th ditto.
17	"Prakriti" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	7th ditto.
18	"Pratikár" ... ..	Berhampore ...	609	
19	"Prithivi" ... ..	Calcutta ...	.....	4th ditto.
20	"Rungpur Dikprakásh" ... ..	Kakinia, Rungpur ...	.....	
21	"Sahachar" ... ..	Calcutta ...	800-1,000	4th ditto.
22	"Sahayogi" ... ..	Burrisal ...	342	
23	"Sakti" ... ..	Dacca ...	.....	
24	"Samáj-o-Sáhitya" ... ..	Garibpore, Nuddea ...	1,000	
25	"Samaya" ... ..	Calcutta ...	3,000	6th ditto.
26	"Sanjivani" ... ..	Ditto ...	4,000	7th ditto.
27	"Sansodhini" ... ..	Chittagong ...	.....	
28	"Sáraswat Patra" ... ..	Dacca ...	300	
29	"Som Prakásh" ... ..	Calcutta ...	600	9th ditto.
30	"Sudhákar" ... ..	Ditto ...	3,100	6th ditto.
31	"Sulabh Samáchar" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
Daily.				
32	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká" ... ..	Calcutta ...	500	12th ditto.
33	"Bengal Exchange Gazette" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
34	"Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká" ... ..	Ditto ...	1,000	8th to 10th and 12th November 1891.
35	"Samvád Prabhákar" ... ..	Ditto ...	1,500	6th, 7th and 12th ditto.
36	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya" ... ..	Ditto ...	300	6th, 7th and 9th to 12th November 1891.
37	"Sulabh Dainik" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
Weekly.				
38	"Dacca Gazette" ... ..	Dacca ...	.....	9th November 1891.
HINDI.				
Monthly.				
39	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samáchár Patrika." ... ..	Darjeeling ...	50	
40	"Kashatriya Patriká" ... ..	Patna ...	250	
Weekly.				
41	"Aryávarta" ... ..	Calcutta ...	750	
42	"Behar Bandhu" ... ..	Bankipore ...	500	
43	"Bhárat Mitra" ... ..	Calcutta ...	1,200	
44	"Champarun Chandrika" ... ..	Bettiah ...	350	
45	"Desí Vyápári" ... ..	Calcutta ...	.....	
46	"Hindi Bangavási" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
47	"Sár Sudhánidhi" ... ..	Ditto ...	500	
48	"Uchit Baktá" ... ..	Ditto ...	4,500	

No.	Names of newspapers		Place of publication.		Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	
<b>URDU.</b>							
<i>Weekly.</i>							
49	" Al Punch "	...	Bankipore	...	.....	26th October and 2nd November 1891.	
50	" Anis "	...	Patna	...	.....		
51	" Calcutta Punch "	...	Calcutta	...	.....		
52	" Gauhur "	...	Ditto	...	196		
53	" General "	...	Ditto	...	.....		
54	" Mehre Monawar "	...	Mozufferpore	...	.....	30th October 1891.	
55	" Raisul-Akhbari-Moorshidabad "	...	Murshidabad	...	150		
56	" Setare Hind "	...	Arrah	...	.....		
57	" Urdu Guide and Darussaltanat "	...	Calcutta	...	340		
<b>URIYA.</b>							
<i>Monthly.</i>							
58	" Asha "	...	Cuttack	...	165		
59	" Echo "	...	Ditto	...	.....		
60	" Pradip "	...	Ditto	...	.....		
61	" Samyabadi "	...	Ditto	...	.....		
62	" Taraka and Subhavartá "	...	Ditto	...	.....		
63	" Utkalprána "	...	Mayurbhunj	...	.....		
<i>Weekly.</i>							
64	" Dipaka "	...	Cuttack	...	.....	8th ditto. 7th ditto. 24th ditto.	
65	" Samvad Váhika "	...	Balasore	...	200		
66	" Uriya and Navasamvád "	...	Ditto	...	420		
67	" Utkal Dípiká "	...	Cuttack	...	420		
<b>PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.</b>							
<b>BENGALI.</b>							
<i>Fortnightly.</i>							
68	" Paridarshak "	...	Sylhet	...	480		
69	" Silchar "	...	Silchar	...	500		
<i>Weekly.</i>							
70	" Srihatta Mihir "	...	Sylhet	...	332		



## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The *Sahachar*, of the 4th November, says that the Indians like to know, and they have also the right to know, whether Government has protested against the levying by the Amir of Afghanistan of unduly heavy duties on Indian goods, and if so, whether any reply has been received to that protest. They also like to know whether the Amir levies similar duties on Russian goods within his dominions. The Amir is receiving an annual subsidy of 12 lakhs of rupees from India, and he has also been supplied with a large quantity of arms. And the sirdars whom he has banished as his enemies are living in India on Indian money. But what benefit is India receiving from him in return for all this? The exaction of these heavy duties by the Amir is diminishing Indian trade in Afghanistan. It is rumoured in the bazars of India that the Amir will openly join Russia if a war breaks out between England and that country. Be the reason what it may, Russia is more trusted than England by the people of Central and Southern Asia. The English Government is taking no notice of the misdeeds of the Amir in the expectation that he will help it in its time of danger. But this is an idle expectation, and Government should strongly protest against the Amir's commercial policy.

*SAHACHAR,*  
Nov. 4th, 1891.

2. The *Sanjivani*, of the 7th November, says that the desire of the English Government to construct a railway to Kandahar has probably excited suspicions in the Amir's mind. It is probably for this reason that the Amir has sent an embassy to the Czar. On two previous occasions the English Government made war upon the Amir for his entertaining a Russian ambassador and refusing admission to an English ambassador. The English Government will not easily forgive the Amir this offence. But is there no other way of settling the quarrel than war? Two wars have not made the Afghans friends of the English. The Afghans are not Indians. Why not make friendly avowals this time? It would have been well if an independent country had remained as a barrier between Indian and Russian dominion in Central Asia. But this is an idle hope. In time the boundaries of the dominions of the two powers will touch each other. Repeated wars by the English on the western frontier have made the frontier tribes hostile to them. Russia is showing friendship for these tribes. Consequently they are becoming well disposed towards her. Why does not the English Government, too, make friends with these tribes? Everybody is subdued by love.

*SANJIVANI,*  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

3. The *Bangavasi*, of the 7th November, says that from the report received by Reuter from St. Petersburg it appears that the dispute about the Pamirs will not be settled soon. Russia proposes to defer the consideration of the question till the Liberals come into power. But who can say that the Liberals will come into power at the next election? No one has given any indication as to which way the wind will blow if the Liberals do not come into power. Who shall say that Russia will not make clandestine movements while pretending to wait for the accession of the Liberals to power? The Pamir affair is verily an enigma. Whatever Russia's movements may be, the loyal people of India and the Native Princes will prove an impregnable wall of defence for the British raj. But Russia's occasional growlings curdle the blood in the body of the poor unfortunate Indians, because one such growling may be the cause of a ceaseless expenditure of that money which is as it were their hearts' blood. The St. Petersburg correspondent writes:—"An Indian or Afghan, supported by Russian money, has been informing Russia of all the secrets of India and Afghanistan, and advising on those subjects. The disclosure of his name would make people understand how great is the danger to India." We are not inclined to put faith in this report. Yet this is terrible growling. Lord, say who this man is, that we may make him out! Thou knowest what these things really are! In a plaintive voice we implore for peace, for it is we who are really in danger.

*BANGAVASI,*  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

4. The *Prakriti*, of the 7th November, says that many are astonished at the Amir's sending an embassy to Russia for securing facilities for trade. The English Government must now repent having installed its false friend, Abdur Rahman, on the throne

*PRAKRITI,*  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

of Afghanistan. If Abdur Rahman goes on playing false, the English Government should set up some one on the throne of Afghanistan who has a real claim to it.

PRAKRITI  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

5. The same paper says that the nearer the Russians draw towards India, the thicker do troubles grow. The writer still remembers the flight of Sir Peter Lumsden at Panjdeh, but he will not refer again to that incident, which is so discreditable to the English Government.

Russia says that the Pamirs belong to her, while the English claim them for the Amir. If the English Government therefore have any trustworthy map, it should produce it at once. The Amir, however, maintains strict silence over the matter, which shows that either he is a false friend of the English, or the English are making a vain contention on his behalf.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

### (a)—Police.

DACCA GAZETTE,  
Nov. 9th, 1891.

6. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 9th November, refers to the prevalence of gambling all over the country, and particularly in Furreedpore and Tipperah. The Gambling Act has been already extended to the former district, and it is hoped that the Magistrate of Commilla will get it extended to the latter district.

### (b)—Working of the Courts.

PRAKRITI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

7. The *Prakriti*, of the 7th November, has heard that Mr. Wilson, of the *Indian Daily News*, will be the next Sheriff of Calcutta. Mr. Wilson is not an incompetent man, but it would be better to appoint either Babu Narendra Nath Sen or Babu Sisir Kumar Ghosh to the office.

SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

8. The *Sanjivani*, of the 7th November, says that when Anglo-Indians are trying to have the fine inflicted on the offender in the Raneeganj shooting case remitted, that fine may not improbably be remitted.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
Nov. 8th, 1891.

9. A correspondent of the *Dacca Prakash*, of the 8th November, draws the attention of the Magistrate of Mymensingh to the fact that Nabina Shaikh, who was ordered by the Deputy Magistrate of Kishoregunge to furnish security for good behaviour for one year, but on appeal to the District Magistrate was, on the 1st October last, directed to be discharged on his furnishing bail to the extent of Rs. 50 only, was not let off before 3 P.M. of the following date, although the required bail-bond was filed at 5-30 P.M. of the preceding day. It is to be hoped that an enquiry will be made as to the party who is responsible for this unauthorised detention of the accused in the jail. The writer also refers to the almost open manner in which the amla and the peons of the several courts in Mymensingh demand and quarrel over illegal gratification from suitors.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 9th, 1891.

10. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 9th November, says that a certain *pirottar* property in mouzahs Masumpore and Vishnupore, in the Sabanga pergunnah of the Mymensingh district, was brought to the hammer for a small arrear of *pulbandi* cess. The Mussulman owners of that property declared that they were not aware that any arrear was due from the property, and that they did not also come to know of the proclamation of sale. But the posting of the notice of sale to any tree on the property is regarded as due proclamation of sale. In this way many landholders are ruined. Many estates are also needlessly brought to the hammer owing to the mistakes on the part of the collectorate officers.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 9th, 1891.

11. The *Bangavasi*, of the 9th November, characterizes as much too severe the sentence of one month's rigorous imprisonment which has been passed by Mr. Cosserat, Deputy Magistrate of Alipore, on Nilmani Bairagi and eight other poor men of Mahismari, in the Sunderbuns, who manufactured salt without

a license. The accused pleaded that they had manufactured the salt for their own use, and the Government Pleader could not prove that they had ever sold salt. If any punishment therefore was needed under the circumstances, a small fine would have been enough. How can the English Government, which advocates free trade, require the people not to manufacture salt for domestic use?

12. The same paper says that if the sentence in the Agra temple case is not quashed on appeal, the worship of Hindu gods will gradually have to be stopped altogether.

The Agra temple case.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 9th, 1891.

(c)—Jails.

13. The *Sahachar*, of the 4th November, says that the *Morning Post* newspaper has recommended greater rigour in jail administration. But the jail administration ought to be changed in a direction opposite to increased rigour. In the jails European prisoners are allowed tea, but native prisoners are refused tobacco and betel-nut, which are to them a much more necessary article than tea is to the former. European prisoners are also allowed soap, towel, looking-glass, and hair-brush. The Anglo-Indians think that prisoners are better housed and better fed, and receive better medical treatment within the jail than without it. The writer cannot say as much in regard to the food, for all the prisoners whom he has interrogated on the subject have complained of its bad quality. The statement as to accommodation and medical treatment is true. It is, however, a remarkable fact that, in spite of all these advantages, mortality is very high in the jails, and that that mortality is, as has been often pointed out, specially high among short-term prisoners. The reason of this is to be found in the fact that work is assigned to prisoners without reference to their position in life and to the nature of their former occupations. The jails, if they are at all to serve their purpose, must not surely be pleasant or attractive places. But it is to be desired, nevertheless, that whatever of cruelty and vindictiveness still marks jail arrangements, should not exist. Can a man like the Madras Subordinate Judge, who was some time ago sentenced to imprisonment, live on the food which will be good enough for a convict shoe-maker? If the unfortunate prisoner Kunjan Menon had died in a jail in England, a howl would have been raised against the food given to respectable prisoners in the English jails. The authorities do not certainly do any deliberate wrong. But it is very difficult to make them see their errors. After thirty years of service in India, Sir Rivers Thompson declared it as his opinion that a native could live on 2 pice a day. It is not possible for an Englishman, even after fifty years' residence in India, to know as well as a native what will be proper food and labour for a native prisoner. No desire for luxurious living will be created or encouraged by allowing tobacco and betel-nut to native prisoners. And greater attention should be paid to the food of the prisoners, and more consideration and judgment should be shown in the assignment of their work.

The jail administration.

SAHACHAR,  
Nov. 4th, 1891.

14. The *Bangavasi*, of the 7th November, says that in reply to a memorial praying for arrangements for respecting caste in the jails, Lord Wenlock said the other day that the less the matter was attended to in jails, the better. It is not at all surprising that such a statement on such a question should be made by a Christian Government. But what is sport to the Governor of Madras is death to the Hindus. It is well to say that it is indiscretion of this kind that increases discontent among the people.

Caste in the jails.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

(d)—Education.

15. The *Kasipore Nivasi*, of the 16th October, says that, so far as can be judged from the proofs of intelligence and conscientiousness already given by Sir Charles Elliott, it does not seem probable that he will abolish the Mymensingh Zillah School on mere suspicion against the students. It is said that the displeasure of the Lieutenant-Governor has been awakened against the students of the school by various accusations. Certain offences have indeed been committed by the students of Mymensingh, but it has not been proved that it is the students of the Zillah

The Mymensingh Zillah School.

KASIPUR NIVASI,  
Oct. 16th, 1891.

School who committed those offences. These may well have been committed by students of other schools. Even granting that the students of the Zillah School are innocent, the Lieutenant-Governor is said to be displeased with them for their not having checked those offences, and for their not attempting even now to check them. But if the students of the Zillah School were not implicated in the offences it is probable that they do not know who committed those offences.

BANGANIVASI,  
Nov. 6th, 1891.

16. The *Banganivasi*, of the 6th November, referring to Sir Charles Elliott's Bankipore speech, says that it is glad that His Honour attaches so much importance to primary education. It is not municipalities alone that reduce the grants for primary schools. The Commissioners of Divisions also cut down these grants in their budgets. It is hoped that the Lieutenant-Governor's pronouncement in regard to primary education will bring both municipalities and Commissioners of Divisions to their senses.

SAMAY,  
Nov. 6th, 1891.

Sir Charles Elliott's Education  
Resolution.

17. The *Samay*, of the 6th November, makes the following observations on Sir Charles Elliott's last Education Resolution:—

- (1) The suggestion of the Lieutenant-Governor that variations in the results of examinations should be prevented by establishing a continuity in the examining body is a good one, and one which has been repeatedly made by this paper.
- (2) The Lieutenant-Governor has laid great stress on the necessity of physical exercise among the students—a point which did not receive special consideration in the report of the Director of Public Instruction. Gymnasiums like those in England should be attached to every school, and the school-masters should join with their students in physical exercise for the encouragement of the latter.
- (3) It is a matter of regret that the Lieutenant-Governor has set down to the account of malice and disappointment the criticism which has been made in the press of the selections of the Central Text-Book Committee. This paper, for one, never condemned any particular selection of the Committee; it has condemned its selections as a whole. It is clear that in this matter the Lieutenant-Governor has seen things in the light in which they were presented to him by the educational authorities.
- (4) Throughout the resolution the Lieutenant-Governor has expressed joy at reduction of expenditure. But this niggardliness has greatly pained the writer. Government spends only 32 lakhs of rupees annually upon the education of the 70 millions of Bengal—an expenditure which appears trifling compared with the educational expenditure of England.

SAMAY.

18. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the inadequate remuneration which is allowed to the teachers of the upper primary and lower primary schools, who have to labour very hard, and points out certain obscure passages in "*Padyaprakash*, Part II"—a book which has been substituted for "*Padyapath*, Part II," as a text-book for the upper primary examination.

PRAKRITI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

19. The *Prakriti*, of the 7th November, says that for the last four years there has been a gradual falling off in the number of primary school students. This proves the poverty of the country, for Indian parents have now come to appreciate the value of education, and if they do not send their sons to schools it is only because they have not the means to do so. This would not probably have happened if Government had granted liberal aid to the primary schools. The state of high education among the Mussulmans, as shown by the results of the University examinations of last year, is not hopeful.

PRAKRITI.

20. The same paper says that a native should have been appointed in the place of Dr. R. C. Chandra—retired. Justice required the appointment of Surgeon-Major R. L. Dutt, who has been serving in the Medical Department for the last twenty years with credit. But Government has appointed

The late appointment to the  
Medical College.

Dr. McConnell to that post. The writer cannot believe that such injustice could be done during the administration of the noble-minded, just, and impartial Sir Charles Elliott.

21. The same paper points out various errors in Babu Bireswar Pande's "Aryasiksha," a book which has been selected by the Text Book Committee as a text-book for the vernacular scholarship and minor scholarship examinations. Misprints and defective metre are also pointed out in Babu Dwarakanath Ganguli's three volumes of "Kavitamala," which, too, have been selected as text-books by the Text Book Committee.

PRAKRITI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

22. The *Hitavadi*, of the 7th November, expresses itself highly satisfied with Sir Charles Elliott's resolution on the report of the Director of Public Instruction. A perfect, well-reasoned, and judicious resolution like the one under notice could come only from a just Governor like Sir Charles Elliott.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

23. The *Sanjivani*, of the 7th November, is glad that in his Bankipore speech the Lieutenant-Governor has insisted so strongly on the necessity of spreading primary education. His Honour is right in saying that primary education is as necessary as food and drink. But will not His Honour make the increased grant which he himself says has been proposed by Sir Alfred Croft in the interest of the education which he declares to be as essential as food and drink? There will be no agreement between profession and practice if this is not done.

SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891

24. The same paper asks, who furnished the Lieutenant-Governor with the wrong information that "science is no longer taught in unaided colleges"? Science is taught in the City College in Calcutta, and a large number of B.A. students of that College took up the B. course last year and succeeded in the examination. So it is not newspaper editors alone who give false information.

SANJIVANI.

The Lieutenant-Governor's Education Resolution.

25. The same paper has the following:—

SANJIVANI.

1. It is said that Mr. Risley will succeed Sir Alfred Croft as Director of Public Instruction. The merits of the officers of the Education Department would indeed have been recognized by the appointment of one of them to the office. But the two officers of the Education Department, namely, Mr. Tawney and Mr. Bellett, who have the best claims to that office, are both unfit for it, the one by his ignorance of the world, and the other for a variety of reasons. If, therefore, an able man like Mr. Risley is appointed to the office, the long-standing abuses of the department are likely to be removed. The Director must be a man who will see all things with his own eyes and do everything himself. Mr. Risley does not probably want these qualifications.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor's suggestion for preventing variations in the results of the University Examinations in different years, namely, continuity in the examining body, is a good one and should be adopted.

3. It is certainly pleasant to hear the Lieutenant-Governor speak of rigorous thrift and ascetic living in the boarding-houses attached to educational institutions. But it is not easy to see how a student can live upon less than Rs. 2-11-6 a month. Englishmen are great eaters, and it is not easy to see why Sir Charles Elliott, who is an Englishman, has advised the students to wear themselves to skeletons by such thrift in the matter of their food.

4. Sir Alfred Croft has had a merry time of it up to this time. He was one of the principal courtiers of Sir Rivers Thompson and Sir Steuart Bayley in their pleasures and amusements. But under the argus-eyed administration of Sir Charles Elliott all classes of officers find themselves rudely threatened out of their accustomed ease and indolence. Sir Alfred Croft, too, has been made a little uneasy. Sir Alfred represented to Sir Charles that his numerous duties in connection with the University left him no time to make tours in the mofussil. The Lieutenant-Governor has, however, expressed the hope (which is only a polite way of expressing the desire) that the Director should be out on tour for at least 60 days in the winter and two months in the rainy season. We, for our part, would give the Director of Public Instruction another instruction. It is as follows:—The Director places undue reliance

on the Inspector of Schools, Presidency Circle. The Presidency Inspector is the Secretary of the Central Text Book Committee and many hold him responsible for the injustice which is done by that Committee—injustice which is an obstacle in the way of the development of the infant Bengali literature. The wrongs done by the Secretary and members of this Committee are often discussed in newspapers. This Committee ought to be reconstituted and definite principles should be laid down for judging the fitness of books as school text-books. The Committee is a creation of the Director, and he will fail in his duty if he does not remedy the injustice that is done by it.

5 (a). Last year showed a decrease of 335 in the number of schools and of 622,980 in the number of students. Thus there is decline in that very education which forms a nation. This is, indeed, a thing to make one weep. While the number of students in the colleges is increasing, that in lower primary schools is decreasing. It is certainly a matter for rejoicing that during the last ten years the number of schools has increased by 18,443 and of students by 5,40,454; but primary education is gradually declining. Sir Alfred Croft has asked Government for a grant of 10 lakhs of rupees to be spent on primary education. The Bengal Government can give no answer one way or the other before the next year. In England free schools have been opened for the masses. And cannot even schools charging fees be provided for the masses in India?

(b). We are alarmed at Sir Charles Elliott's proposal to abolish the zillah schools. It is surprising that even a man of so acute an intellect as His Honour should consider the abolition of those schools desirable. It is said that Government views with dislike the increasing love of independence shown by natives, and has determined to abolish the zillah schools with the view of converting them again into an illiterate people. But the English Government is certainly wise enough to see the futility of any such endeavour. Nothing will now prevent the Bengalis from acquiring knowledge. They will do so if need be at their own expense.

The frontier defences are costing large sums of money, and Government is therefore desirous of making retrenchments in all directions. Government spends on an average 2,000 rupees a year on every zillah school, and by the abolition of the zillah schools it can effect an annual saving of one lakh of rupees which is no inconsiderable sum at this time of financial difficulty. But we think that Government does not intend to apply this saving to other purposes except the spread of primary and technical education. The development of primary and technical education is, indeed, a thing greatly to be desired. But primary and technical education should not be developed at the expense of the zillah schools. The abolition of the zillah schools will work mischief in various ways. In the first place, it will lower the standard of education in the country by withdrawing highly educated people from the Education Department, inasmuch as such people can get adequate salaries only in the Government schools. It will also increase immorality among students by increasing the number of mercenary school-keepers who make no scruple of openly teaching immorality. Control over the education of youth is a thing sought by all Governments, and it is specially useful to a foreign Government, for it can by means of such educational control mould its subjects according to its own will. Government is taking care to exclude all patriotic writing from school text-books in order to prevent the students from becoming disloyal. But how will it prevent the teaching of disloyalty in the schools if it resigns its control over education? The zillah schools may be abolished at places where there are respectable private schools, but not at other places.

(c). Sir Alfred Croft can discover no fault in the Text-book Committee which is blamed in all quarters. And it is strange that he has been able to throw dust in the eyes of even so clever a man as Sir Charles Elliott in regard to the Text-book Committee. The Lieutenant-Governor says that "the selections (of the Committee) have been much attacked by some members of the press, but he has no reason to believe that the attacks are well-founded." The Secretary of the Committee has perhaps explained away these attacks by saying that they are made by disappointed authors whose books have been rejected. We were among those who attacked the Committee's selections, but we can lay our hand on our heart and say that it was from no

personal pique but only after seeing repeated instances of the despotic conduct of the Secretary of the Committee that we did so. The Secretary is in the first place a School-Inspector and he is in the next place an author himself and related to other authors. He is, therefore, whether consciously or unconsciously, guilty of partiality. His son or his nephew has a printing press, and it is rumoured that books printed at that press readily find a place in the list of approved books. We know it for a fact that many books printed at this press have been appointed as text-books, and that many people get their books printed at that press in the hope that these will be selected as text-books. Many books that had been in use as text-books for many years have been rejected by Rai Radhikaprassanna Mukharji's Committee. There is no means of ascertaining whether those books have at all come to the hands of the members of the Committee. We believe that the selections of the Committee will not produce such deep dissatisfaction if Rai Radhikaprassanna, who is the author of many books, is removed from the Secretaryship and a just man like Babu Chunder Nath Bose is appointed to the office.

Sir Charles is right in thinking "that the sale of school-books authorised by Government is very lucrative." And it is precisely because their sale is so lucrative that a man who is himself an author of books should not remain Secretary of the Committee. Sir Charles, who is a just and clearsighted man, should think about this.

We will conclude this article by making another remark in regard to the Committee. While the Committee has included in its list of moral text-books books which contain only a very small quantity of moral instruction, it has excluded therefrom books which are full of excellent moral teaching in every page thereof. We have come to know that all the books received by the Committee were not sent to the members for examination from the standpoint of moral teaching, and that the list of moral text-books was published before all the books could be examined. Who is responsible for this? The Lieutenant-Governor has not time to look into these abuses. If he had the time he would be astonished at their number. If His Honour changes the Secretary of the Committee all these disorders will be at an end.

26. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 8th November, condemns the action of the authorities of the Calcutta University in holding a fresh examination of all the B.L. candidates in the law relating to real property, simply because six candidates had by mistake received, instead of the proper question papers, question papers on Hindu and Mahomedan law. Who is responsible for this mistake which has necessitated the framing of fresh question papers on Hindu and Mahomedan law and the re-examination of all the candidates in those subjects? There was, however, no necessity for subjecting all the candidates to a fresh examination in the law relating to real property, for it would have been enough to have examined afresh only the six candidates who had by mistake received the wrong papers. The writer is sorry to see the Vice-Chancellor gradually making himself a nonentity.

27. The *Som Prakash*, of the 9th November, is glad that the Lieutenant-Governor has determined to abolish the schools whose students may prove guilty of immorality and insubordination. It is hoped that the students of Bengal will obtain warmer praise for good conduct in the next Education Resolution of the Bengal Government.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

28. As instances of the Calcutta Municipality's want of attention to the comforts of the rate-payers, the *Banganivasi*, of the 6th November, mentions the following facts:—

The Municipality took up the repair of Hastings Street before the offices of the attorneys closed for the puja, and it has undertaken the repair of the street on which the offices of the pleaders are situated now when the High Court has reopened. In some places rubbish is found heaped up on the road side for a considerable length of time without being used for any purpose whatever. In some localities of the Northern Division rubbish is suffered to accumulate, and there is either complete absence of light at night, or only a feeble kerosine light.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 8th, 1891.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Nov. 9th, 1891.

BANGANIVASI,  
Nov. 6th, 1891.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

29. The *Bangavasi*, of the 7th November, says that irregularities are occurring every day in the business of the Hughli and Chinsurah Municipality. It is now three or four months since metal was collected for the repair of certain roads. Up to date this metal remains heaped up. The Commissioners alone can say by what time the roads will be in order. Again, the state of some of the drains in the Kamarparah Ward, Chinsurah, is very bad. The Hughli and Chinsurah Municipality propose to employ an assessor for three months on a pay of one hundred rupees, and some of the Commissioners have supported this proposal. The writer is of opinion that, instead of spending three hundred rupees in this way, the Ward Commissioners themselves should be entrusted with the duty of assessment. In this way the business will be better done. Some of the Commissioners have refused to take the duty upon themselves. Why are they so anxious to be returned as Commissioners if they cannot do such simple work? They ought to resign.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 8th, 1891.

30. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 8th November, has the following in an article headed "Municipal improvement!"—Come to the mofussil and enter within the jurisdiction of any municipality. You will see that the attention of the municipal authorities is chiefly directed to the part of the municipal area occupied by the bazar or traversed by the sudder road. You will see that the bazar road is in a state of repair, that there is municipal *hangama* (interference and activity) near the hât, and that the shop-keepers are subjected to trouble and harassment. If it is a riparian municipality, you will find that there are burning-ghâts, near which are put up boards on which are inscribed rules for the cremation of corpses. All these and many more things are there. The bazar also is kept neat and clean.

But come to the inhabited parts of the municipality and you will see a painful sight. The tanks have either silted up or are completely dry. Some are full of knee-deep mud and a little water, and it is this water which is used by the people for domestic purposes.

You will see that the roads which traverse these inhabited parts of the municipal area are lined on both sides with jungle and have gradually become shrunken and narrow footpaths, answering the description of geometrical lines.

The village abounds in jungle, but the municipality does not see it. Places which were never before visited by bears and tigers are now infested with these wild animals in the cold season. Snakes abound on all sides. The police is wonderfully vigilant (?). Formerly the chowkidar's call used to be heard at night in every part of the village, but he is no longer seen in the villages. The constables of the present day seem intended only for show and bringing stray cattle to the pounds. Of course, the municipality has now no direct relation with the police, and the reference made to the village watch in this article is therefore only incidental.

It is the favoured that receive most favour. While arrangements are made for supplying filtered water in places on river banks the inhabitants of places which are almost without any water-supply have to live somehow by drinking filtered mud.

There the municipality has no eye to see the wants of the people; even when it has, it is in want of funds. The money wrung from the rate-payers is spent in decorations, in the purchase of office furniture and printed forms. The money that is wasted on these items every year might be profitably spent in the excavation of two or three tanks.

Whatever the cause, it is a fact that malarious fever is desolating Bengal. It is doing great havoc this year. But the drainage channels of the country are all blocked, and there will be no mitigation of this evil even if the municipalities do their best. Every municipality has at least ten to twelve villages under its jurisdiction, and to provide each of these villages with good drainage will require an amount of expenditure which no municipality is in a position to incur.

There is no outlet for rain water which accumulates and stagnates in the villages, and is gradually absorbed in the soil. This water and decomposed vegetable matter help to generate malaria and cholera.

The Lieutenant-Governor has expressed regret that there are no lamps in many municipalities and the streets are enveloped in darkness. But what about the gloom that is settling on all sides on account of depopulation ?

Cut down the jungle, make good drainage arrangements, re-excavate the silted tanks, and arrange for a supply of pure drinking water, and it is only when these have been done that the municipalities will be of service to the country. Municipalities with mere show and noise will be of no use. Live according to your means, give up your costly notions regarding office furniture, reduce the number of forms, and attend to proper and real work. The condition of the municipalities in the mofussil is disappointing and unsatisfactory. There are villages whose condition has become worse after their formation into municipalities. Does the Lieutenant Governor wish to know all these things ?

31. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 8th November, says that as the effect of the Lieutenant-Governor's two recent orders in connection with District Boards and Municipalities respectively will be to curtail the powers of Local Self-Government which were conferred upon the people, it is desirable that an agitation should be made in this matter. Though it is the local bodies of Dacca which have furnished Government with the occasion for passing the two orders in question, namely, that the Director of Public Instruction shall be henceforward competent to order the transfer of Sub-Inspectors of Schools, even against the wishes of District Boards, and that District Magistrates shall henceforward possess greater powers of control over municipalities, still all Bengal will be injuriously affected by the operation of these orders. Nothing can prevent the downfall of Dacca so long as the incubus that rests upon it is not removed. That incubus will indeed be removed some day by the operation of natural causes, but it is not improbable that when that day comes, the inordinately large powers which are now conferred upon Magistrates will stand in the way of Municipal reform in that town.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
Nov. 8th, 1891.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

32. A correspondent of the *Banganivasi*, of the 6th November, writing from Matta in Manickgunj, complains of irregularity in the service of the steamer *Egret*. It is also complained that the officers in charge of the steamer *Lark* wrongfully rejected the other day a ticket granted by the Eastern Bengal State Railway. It is hoped that the authorities will attend to the matter.

BANGANIVASI,  
Nov. 6th, 1891.

33. Another correspondent of the same paper says that if Government kindly extends the canal which it has excavated by the side of the silted up Bagda river in the Midnapore district a little further, the villages lying to the south of the canal will no longer have their crops destroyed by floods.

BANGANIVASI.

34. The *Bangavasi*, of the 7th November, says that if there are to be, as has been proposed, distinct third class carriages for different natives, the distinction should be based on caste. It is complained that on the Eastern Bengal State Railway ladies of the zenana mission are allowed to travel in the third class and intermediate class female carriages provided for native women. Their presence in these carriages is objectionable not only on account of its spoiling the food for children which is taken in those carriages, but also on account of the ladies preaching Christianity to solitary native women on these occasions. This evil should be remedied.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

(h)—*General.*

35. The *Navayuga*, of the 5th November, says:—Sir Charles Elliott has introduced many changes in the administration within this short time. We would make no remark here as to their reasonableness or unreasonableness. But we cannot by any means think that a man proves himself an able ruler if he calls for explanations at every step and shows heartlessness in every action and wants to keep himself informed of the minutest details, to see every

NAVAYUGA,  
Nov. 5th, 1891.

Sir Charles Elliott and the  
Bengal Secretariat.

thing with his own eyes, and to do every thing with his own hands. Such a ruler may be allowed credit for love of work and industry, but by no means for judgment or experience. The Lieutenant-Governor is now going to introduce certain changes and reforms in the Bengal Secretariat which, if carried out, will throw many clerks out of employment and stop the promotion of many others for good. It will be well if these things are done a little less hurriedly and with a little more judgment.

SUDHAKAR,  
Nov. 6th, 1891.

36. The *Sadhakar*, of the 6th November, referring to the Lieutenant-Governor's tour resolution, says that His Honour is an active man himself and wants his subordinates to

be active like himself.

BANGANIVASI,  
Nov. 6th, 1891.

37. The *Banganivasi*, of the 6th November, is glad that the Lieutenant-Governor has attended to the memorial of the people of Serampore praying him to take steps to check the prevalence of cholera at that place. Who will remove the sufferings of the people if not the ruler?

BANGANIVASI.

38. A correspondent of the same paper writing from Matta in Manickgunj objects to the prayer of the people of Tangail to the effect that Tangail with Manickgunj should form a new district. Manickgunj is happy as it is. The people of Manickgunj can travel to Dacca in one day, but they cannot go to Tangail even in three days. Tangail was formerly for a long time under the jurisdiction of Manickgunj, and so, if a new district is now formed, its head-quarters should be at Manickgunj. And with their head-quarters at Manickgunj, the people of Tangail will enjoy greater convenience than they do at present.

PRAKRITI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

39. The *Prakriti*, of the 7th November, publishes a communication from a friend on the subject of the Lieutenant-Governor's tour.

The Lieutenant-Governor's tour, which is no doubt prompted by the noble object of seeing everything for himself, is done too hurriedly to enable that object being attained and will be ruinous by its expensiveness. The Lieutenant-Governor must go about with a large following, and this pomp and publicity will defeat the object of these tours in another way, namely, by allowing oppressive officers time to appear in a most amiable light. If the Lieutenant-Governor wishes to judge of everything for himself, he would do well to appoint a trustworthy officer to make tours and to supply the wants of the districts on the report of such officer.

PRAKRITI.

40. The same paper says that with the other elements of civilisation the English have also introduced drunkenness into India.

Use of intoxicants in Bengal. That demon of drunkenness is ruining India. There is the horrid sight of drunkenness in the town. But drunkenness presents itself in the most horrid form of all in the mofussil. One finds in the villages hungry men attired in rags resorting to the outstills utterly forgetful of starving wife and children and aged parents pinched by hunger. This drunkenness prevails even among educated people and leads to a thousand evils, such as, crimes, accidents, suicides, &c. It is for you, English Government, to remedy this evil. We regard the Sovereign as "a mighty god in the shape of man." You are our protectors; but if you devour us instead of protecting us you will suffer for it in the world to come, if not in this.

Government has indeed abolished the outstills, but it has increased the number of sudder distilleries in the Burdwan, Dacca and Orissa Divisions. Thus, although Government's excise income has slightly decreased, the stream of wine flows deep and strong in the country.

The loss by the abolition of outstills has been recouped by increased sale of other intoxicants, such as *tari*, country wine, *ganja* and opium. Thus the use of intoxicants has not, on the whole, diminished. Government ought to devise means for checking this increased use of the other intoxicants.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

41. The *Hitavadi*, of the 7th November, says that the killing of native by Europeans has become almost an every-day occurrence, and yet Government pays no attention worth the name to the matter. Government will do well to publish a list of deaths from the attacks of these cruel beasts in human shape, just as it publishes a list of deaths from the attacks of wild beasts.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

42. The same paper says that Sir Charles Elliott's tour resolution has been characterised in some quarters as a whip. But a whip is often needed to get work out of men in general, and particularly out of those who are by nature indolent or lethargic. Whether for unsatisfactory selection or for other reasons, there is much indolence among the high officials, and the kind-hearted Provincial Governors, remembering that these English officials live in a foreign country far from home and in the unbearable heat of the Indian climate, are loth to make use of the whip in order to stir them to activity. This is why there are few just Governors like Sir Charles Elliott. Sir Charles certainly deserves the thanks of the public for his endeavour to put an end to the long sleep of the officials.

The main principle of the resolution is that all heads of departments should set an example to their subordinates by their own manner of working. It is very necessary for a Provincial Governor to regulate the work of his subordinates by means of such a resolution. The resolution will be a training for the officials, and will keep the whole machinery of the provincial administration clean and in working order. It may therefore be hoped that the country will be benefited by its enforcement.

The chief features of the resolution are that all heads of departments should (1) exercise supervision over the work of their own offices; (2) make themselves acquainted with the qualifications of their subordinate officers working at different places and with the manner in which work is done in the offices of the latter; and (3) keep themselves informed of the views of the officers of departments having business connection with their own, as well as of the local public in places in which the most important offices subordinate to them are situate. All this knowledge is certainly needed by the head of a department for a satisfactory discharge of his duties; and in order to gain this knowledge he must spend a portion of the year varying from 3 to 6 months, according to necessity, in touring.

It is objected that the arrangement proposed by Sir Charles Elliott will convert the chief officials into a body of Inspectors, and thus interfere with their other and more important administrative work. But inspection and supervision are necessary in all work, administrative, commercial or other, and are particularly important where the field of action is very wide. Inspection has certainly its troubles and anxieties, and that is why many are clamouring against it like the *Pioneer*. Others are saying that method and order in work can be secured without inspection and supervision. But one cannot conceive a more efficacious means of making public servants attend to their duties than inspection and supervision.

Sir Charles Elliott's tour resolution is, however, defective in that it does not guard against the evils which may arise from following the directions contained in it. They are as follows:—

In the first place, the working of the resolution will increase the expenditure on the head of tour allowance, and this should have been prevented by lowering the present rate of tour allowance for high officials which is too high.

In the second place, it is feared that it may lead to oppression on zemindars and other respectable people. The Lieutenant-Governor should have provided against it.

Some people think that the resolution will increase litigation by bringing judicial officers close to the people's own doors. But it may be urged against this view that the judicial officers will not stay at any one place for any considerable length of time, and that the trouble and harassment of following them from one place to another will probably cure litigants of their love of litigation.

Whether the resolution may lead to failure of justice or not is a question which will be considered hereafter.

43. The *Bangavasi*, of the 7th November, says that of all the clerks in the province, those employed in the Bengal Secretariat had alone pretty good prospects before them. But thanks to Sir Charles Elliott, all their prospects are about to be taken away. His Honour is personally arranging for the discharge of all Secretariat work, and is said to have resolved to abolish the graded system of pay. The writer has only received hints on the subject and will therefore

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

The clerks in the Bengal Secretariat.

defer saying all that may have to be said on the subject until he has fully known the intention of the Lieutenant-Governor.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

The tour resolution.

44. The same paper has the following on the tour resolution of Government:—

The big officials now go to the mofussil only to enjoy themselves. The information they collect in the course of their tours is derived in the same way as the information which is collected by them at head-quarters, namely, through the agency of other people. They seldom hold direct intercourse with the *mandal* or any of the ryots of a village, and they are never found to be anxious to ascertain the wants and grievances of the people, and whether it is possible to supply those wants and remove those grievances. For these and several other reasons tours are of no use. The present Lieutenant-Governor is, however, extremely in favour of tours. His Honour has framed definite rules fixing the period that each officer, high and low, should be on tour, and prescribing how tours should be made. Too much importance has thus been attached to tours. But too much of anything is bad. Many officers try pending suits when on tour. This cannot be helped. But it involves trouble to all—plaintiff, defendant, pleader, mukhtear, witness. The presiding officer travels pleasantly from one place to another, but his change of place causes the parties, &c., extreme inconvenience. It may do, however, to try, while on tour only selected cases in the places visited or in places adjacent to those visited. This is a very important matter, and it is desirable that the Lieutenant-Governor should pay special attention to it.

BANGAVASI.

45. The same paper says that Sivanivas in the Nuddea district is an important place within the jurisdiction of the Krishnagunj Post Office, where two deliveries were usual. The villagers applied for a branch post office.

A postal complaint from the Nuddea district.

Enquiries were made, and it was ascertained that a branch post office would pay. Hopes were accordingly held out that a branch post office would be soon established and one of the deliveries was stopped. Two months passed away and the inhabitants applied to the Postmaster-General, Bengal, to give them a branch post office or restore two deliveries. It is not four months since one of the deliveries was stopped. It is said that a post-master has not been appointed, as there is no aided school at the place. If competent men of this village stand as security, the work may be entrusted to a person who can read and write. If a branch be not established, the two deliveries should be restored.

SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

46. The *Sanjivani*, of the 7th November, is glad that the Lieutenant Governor has ruled that no officer shall remain on the hills when the Lieutenant-Governor is not there. The more the hill residence of the officials

is shortened the better.

47. The same paper says that the clerk's life is the most miserable life on earth. There is not only the incessant work at office, there is also office work at home. And not even this drudgery saves the poor clerk from reprimands from his superiors. The gazetted holidays are rarely enjoyed by him. The twelve days' vacation on the occasion of the Puja has been reduced to four days. The head of an office remains seated at ease with his back reclined against his chair and gives directions, and it is the poor clerk who prepares all the papers which he only signs. All credit for good work is given to the Head, and all censure for bad work is received by the clerk. Such is the clerk's miserable life. And in the present rage for economy the Lieutenant-Governor seems resolved to add to his miseries. His Honour has made the hours of attendance for clerks in the Bengal Secretariat 10-30 A.M. to 5 P.M. in place of 11 A.M. to 5 P.M. as heretofore. He has also proposed the abolition of the graded system of pay—an abolition which will deprive the clerk's life of what little attraction it has. Retrenchment is effected with a vengeance in the case of poor clerks and dufftries; but no one ventures to come near the Civilian Secretaries. We challenge any one to make strict rules about the hours of attendance of the Civilian Secretaries.

SANJIVANI.

Clerks in the Bengal Secretariat.

SANJIVANI.

48. The same paper says that since the time of the late Dr. Goodeve Chuekerbutty, a native has been employed as second physician in the Medical College Hospital.

Two medical appointments.

And there has been a departure from this practice this time in the appointment of Dr. McConnell as Second Physician in place of Dr. R. C. Chandra retired. Another case of injustice is also heard of. Surgeon-Major R. L. Dutt had been appointed to officiate as Civil Surgeon of the 24-Pergunnahs in place of Dr. McConnell appointed as Second Physician in the Medical College Hospital. But it is said that a Dr. Leahy has been appointed to that office. If this be true, it will be clear that even Sir Charles Elliott makes distinctions between the black and the white.

49. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 9th November, says that target practice at Dum-Dum is often attended with accidents in consequence of the bullets flying into the adjacent villages. The target should be removed to some other place.

The Tour Resolution. 50. The *Gramvasi*, of the 9th November, highly approves of the Lieutenant-Governor's Tour Resolution.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 9th, 1891.

GRAMVASI.  
Nov. 9th, 1891.

### III.—LEGISLATIVE.

51. The *Banganivasi*, of the 6th November, learns from the Simla correspondent of a Punjab paper that Moulvi Mahammad Yusuf of the Calcutta High Court will succeed Sir Romesh Chandra Mitter in the Viceregal Council. If it is intended to appoint a Mussulman to the Council, there can be no doubt that the Moulvi will be the fittest man for the purpose. But if a selection is made in consideration of merit alone, Babu Rashbehari Ghosh should get the place.

BANGANIVASI,  
Nov. 6th, 1891.

52. The *Bangavasi*, of the 7th November, says that its own utterances about the Age of Consent Act may be of no importance, for it is uncivilised, illiterate, and destitute of political independence. But it is necessary that people should know what the leading newspaper in England, the *Times*, thinks on the subject. The *Times* says—

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

"The Act, however necessary, was certainly an interference with an established custom, not of immemorial date, but so old that it had come to be bound up with the religious feeling of the natives."

If the Viceroy, with the Queen's Proclamation before him, had only said what the *Times* has said, people would have seen that his is a noble heart, and the real meaning of the Proclamation would have become clear. But the Indians, who live in their religion, have been deeply alarmed by the interpretation which His Excellency has put on the Proclamation.

### IV.—NATIVE STATES.

53. The *Sahachar*, of the 4th November, says that statesmen are very guarded in their utterances, and what they say is susceptible of more than one interpretation. What Lord Lansdowne has said about Cashmere may well be compared with what the English Government has repeatedly said about Egypt. The English Government has again and again declared that English troops will evacuate Egypt as soon as a stable government is established there. But Europe and all the rest of the world know none the less that the promised evacuation will take place only on the Greek Kalends. It is certainly easy to make Lord Lansdowne's utterances about Cashmere take an equally bad interpretation. But the writer would for himself give to the utterances of the Viceroy of India none but the plainest and most natural interpretation. There is great difference between Egypt and Cashmere. Egypt is a Tributary State under an independent country; Cashmere is a Tributary State under the Empress of India. Her Majesty's Government can do what it pleases with a Native State. And it would be a gross political blunder to make use of diplomacy in regard to a State which is so utterly dependent on the English Government. Lord Lansdowne knows that this Cashmere question is greatly exercising the public mind, and that whether the Queen's Proclamation should be regarded as a sincere expression of the Sovereign's will or not will depend upon the policy he will adopt in reference to Cashmere. The writer therefore requests the

SAHACHAR,  
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public to give to the utterances of the Viceroy a natural interpretation. Lord Lansdowne has given out the hint that if everything appears good in Cashmere, the English Government may restore the Maharaja to his full powers without waiting for the expiration of the full period of five years. The real object of the Cashmere arrangements has been attained. There is no chance of the good work inaugurated by the Council being undone by the Maharaja when he has been restored to his powers. The public hope that Lord Lansdowne will restore the Maharaja to his powers without delay. A good act is indeed good at all times, but its value is considerably enhanced if it is done at the right time.

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54. The same paper refers to the present prosperous condition of Mysore to show what can be achieved under a native administration. Under British administration Mysore was only an ordinary State administered by an European officer with the help of a staff of European officers. The industrial arts were in an exceedingly flourishing condition in Jhansi when that State was under a native Raja. But it is now only a third class district with a perceptible tendency to deterioration. Those who recommend the annexation of Cashmere may grow wiser by seeing the present prosperity of that State. The suzerainty of the Queen over Mysore is certainly a desirable thing; for without that suzerainty Mysore could not have made the progress which it now exhibits. If Her Majesty's troops had not maintained peace all over the country, and if it had been necessary for that State to fight constantly as of old with the Nizam, there would have been in it no railway construction or spread of education. Still, be the reason what it may, Mysore could not have made all its progress under the direct administration of the Crown. What a good thing it will be if the Viceroy addresses the members of his Council in the same way as the Dewan of Mysore addresses the representatives of the Mysore people? Will Government take a lesson in this matter from its disciple?

#### V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

SUDHAKAR,  
Nov. 6th, 1891.

55. The *Sudhakar*, of the 6th November, says that the prospects of the paddy crop in Bengal are very alarming. Government should adopt precautions against distress from this time.

SAMAY,  
Nov. 6th, 1891.

56. The *Samay*, of the 6th November, refers to the report of the Magistrate of Rajshahye that only an 8-anna portion of the crop will be harvested there, and says that the officials will do well to set themselves from this time making enquiries as to the extent to which scarcity is likely to prevail in different parts of the country.

SAMAY.

57. A correspondent of the same paper writing from Nowgong in the Rajshahye district says that there is wailing among the cultivators because they have not been able to grow any crop for want of rainfall. Their cattle were washed away by the last flood, and those who gave them loans last year will not give them loans this year. Rents are being rigorously exacted from them at this time of distress. The Deputy Magistrate is requested to inspect the condition of the villages. If Government does not give relief, many people will die of starvation.

PRAKRITI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

58. The *Prakriti*, of the 7th November, says that great suffering seems to be in store for Bengal this year. There has been almost no rainfall from before the month of Kartik. The condition of the *aman* crop is deplorable. The crops have withered away in the Mymensingh, Durbhunga, Balasore, Rajshahye, Hooghly and other districts for want of rainfall. It is feared that there will be a terrible famine in the country this year. The authorities should be careful from this time. The Commissioners should enquire about the extent of the failure of crops in their respective divisions. No good will be done by making enquiries when deaths from starvation have begun to take place.

59. The *Bangavasi*, of the 7th November, says that though tea is only a luxury, the *Englishman* and other big Anglo-Indian journals are expressing themselves terribly concerned about the tea plant in Sylhet, Sibsagar, and Jalpaiguri, which will be greatly injured this year for want of seasonable rainfall. But they have nothing to say about the paddy crop of the whole province, which is about to be totally destroyed for want of rain. Such is self-interest! What do the Babus, who are so desirous to imitate the English in dress, manners, and ideas, say about this feature of the English character?

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

60. The same paper has learnt from Bandipore, a village in the Hooghly district, that crops are dying for want of rain. If two feet more water is now allowed from the Damodar into the Kana river for the purpose of being drained into the fields, the crops may yet be saved.

BANGAVASI.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

61. The *Sahachar*, of the 4th November, suggests the following improvements in the arrangements now existing in the Lewis Sanitarium at Darjeeling:—

SAHACHAR,  
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Mutton may sometimes be substituted for goat's flesh, and milk of a better quality should be provided at a place where milk is so cheap. There should be also better arrangements for tobacco-smoking. The rule that a visitor should, on his admission, make an advance of one week's charge, no matter whether he remains all the time or not, is most objectionable. It is opposed to the practice obtaining in European hotels, and implies a distrust of the visitors, who are invariably educated and respectable people.

The Sanitarium is commended in all other respects. The accommodation and fare are good, and every attention is paid to the comfort and convenience of the inmates.

62. A correspondent of the *Navayuga*, of the 5th November, writing from Sindrani, in the Bongong sub-division of the Jessore district, says that malaria is raging with violence at the village in consequence of the steeping of jute in water. The one doctor at the village is unable to attend all who are suffering from malaria. Another doctor is needed.

NAVAYUGA,  
Nov. 5th, 1891.

63. The *Sudhakar*, of the 6th November, says that as *waqf* properties are for the benefit of the Mussulman community, so their proper management depends upon the vigilance of the members of that community. The *waqf* property of Haji Mahammad Mohsein alone is sufficient to maintain the Dacca, Hooghly, and Chittagong Madrissas, and to grant aids to many English schools. If all *waqf* properties in Bengal were properly managed, sufficient funds would be found to establish not only a line of madrissas from one end of the Province to the other, but also to maintain several colleges like the Presidency College. By their proper management sufficient funds would also be found for the propagation of Islam.

SUDHAKAR,  
Nov. 6th, 1891.

64. The *Hitavadi*, of the 7th November, says that the Englishmen in Raneegunge are moving heaven and earth to get the sentence of a fine of Rs. 500 passed on the two Englishmen who killed a native quashed. Preparations are being made for preferring an appeal against the sentence, and steps are being taken to enlist the sympathy of the Anglo-Indian public. The *Indian Daily News* is also advocating their cause. One cannot help fearing that there may be another agitation as bitter as that which was made against the Ilbert Bill.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

65. The same paper expresses itself highly satisfied with the household implements, such as knives, axes, &c., turned out by the hardware manufactory established at Chinsurah by Babu Satishchandra Ghosh, a student of the Sibpur Engineering College, and wishes the undertaking all success.

HITAVADI.

66. The *Prakriti*, of the 7th November, referring to the publication of a missionary tract at Bombay abusing the Hindu god Krishna, says that this has deeply wounded the

PRAKRITI,  
Nov. 7th, 1891.

feelings of the Hindus, and adds that interference with other people's religions often results in evil.

DACCA GAZETTE,  
Nov. 9th, 1891.

67. Referring to the Agra temple case, the *Dacca Gazette*, of the 9th November, says that there is difficulty everywhere at the present time. In Bengal, Behar, and Orissa,

The Agra temple case.

in the North-Western Provinces, in Oudh, in Nagpore, in Bombay, in Madras—there is difficulty everywhere. To-day there is difficulty here regarding the administration of justice; to-morrow there will be a temple difficulty in another place; day after to-morrow there will be a musjid difficulty in yet another place—difficulty on all sides, as if India can never be free from difficulty. The pen, the eye, and the ear are tired of writing about, reading, and hearing of these difficulties. Try to find out the cause, and you will see that in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred it is the reckless European and police officials who bring about these difficulties. The writer thus addresses the Commissioner of Agra and the Magistrate, who tried and fined the accused in the Agra temple case: "Wonderful decision! Glory to you, first of Judges! and we say to you, worthiest among sahebs, if the ringing of bells and the blowing of conches in a temple are really so disagreeable to you, then do you settle the difficulty by forthwith removing your quarters elsewhere. We also ask you, why do you silently submit to the nuisance of the noise and whistle of the railway trains constantly passing by your ear? Who will answer this question?"

SOM PRAKASH,  
Nov. 9th, 1891.

68. The *Som Prakash*, of the 9th November, is sorry that the Provincial Conference which was lately held at Calcutta was not so largely attended as was expected. A stand-

The Provincial Conference.

ing committee is appointed at the Conference every year for doing work relating to the Conference. But no real work has up to this time been done by those committees. These committees should concert measures to prevent distress and floods in the province, and publish an accurate report of the condition of the country and the state of agriculture.

SOM PRAKASH.

69. The same paper complains that foreign merchants are carrying away food-grains to the remotest corners of the world, and, in exchange for that commodity, are offering to the

Export of Indian food-grains.

Indian people liquor, which converts men into beasts. Upon no principle of morality can this proceeding be justified. Self-sacrifice is recognized in civilised society as the highest principle of conduct. But it is easy to imagine what scant respect will be shown for that principle by men who beat their inoffensive native servants to death and then manufacture strange stories of the occurrence in order to avoid the penalty of the law. It is necessary to put a stop to this wholesale draining away of Indian food-grains—at least in seasons of scarcity. If the English Government can provide food for the millions of India, that act of virtue will make India its own for ever.

SOM PRAKASH.

70. A correspondent of the same paper says that the late Dr. Bholanath Bose provided in his will for the establishment of two charitable dispensaries, namely, one at Barrackpore and another at Ilchhoba-Mandalai. But it is

A charitable dispensary at Ilchhoba-Mandalai.

rumoured that Government, in giving effect to the doctor's will, proposes to establish only a very small dispensary at the latter place and to spend the major portion of the money so granted on the dispensary to be established at Barrackpore. It is hoped that the respectable people of Ilchhoba-Mandalai will protest against this intention of the Government. Malaria is now raging with violence at Ilchhoba-Mandalai and the adjacent villages, and Government will do a great service to the villagers if it now establishes at that place the charitable dispensary for which the late doctor provided in his will.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 9th, 1891.

71. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 9th November, says that at the meeting held at Assensole by the local Europeans to protest against the sentence that has been passed

The Raneegunj shooting case.

against Mr. Sonnenschein, all the speakers complained of failure of justice, but no one pointed out wherein the injustice of the sentence lay. They contended that the native witnesses should have been disbelieved and the European witnesses should have been believed. What if the natives should make the opposite contention? The Europeans want justice. So do the natives. But their justice means the acquittal of accused Europeans, which is unhappily opposed to the idea of justice held by the natives. The Europeans of Raneegunj contend that every

European should be allowed the privilege of jury trial in cases like that of Mr. Sonnenschein. They are welcome by all means to that privilege. But why should the natives be deprived of it? The Europeans often over-reach themselves by making grossly selfish demands. The Europeans of Raneegunj also expressed the fear that they too might be punished under circumstances under which Mr. Sonnenschein has been punished, and they declared that it would be therefore better for them to leave the country. But they need not leave the country if they do not go out hunting anywhere and everywhere. And natives must leave the country if Europeans who shoot them escape with impunity. Will this vast empire then be peopled with Englishmen alone?

The Europeans of Raneegunj are in a rage, and passion perverts judgment. It is this that makes them hurl defiance against Government. Defiance by Europeans is not counted as an offence. But if speeches like those delivered at the Assensole meeting had been delivered at any native meeting, the consequences would have been serious. In that case the entire Anglo-Indian press would have charged the natives with disloyalty, and Lord Lansdowne himself would probably have been troubled at heart.

The Europeans of Raneegunj will move the Defence Association and the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor for the quashing of the sentence. The writer, however, hopes for impartiality from the Anglo-Indian press.

#### URIYA PAPERS.

72. The *Uriya and Navasamvad*, of the 7th October, is sorry to learn that people residing near the Coast Canal are put to great inconvenience on account of the improper conduct of the manjhis placed in charge of boats intended for conveying passengers from one side of the canal to the other. They charge fees at rates determined by themselves, and absent themselves from the boats at their pleasure. The writer states how some women passing through the Chandpur portion of the Coast Canal had to wait for a whole night on the bank of the canal on account of the unwillingness of the manjhis to convey them to the other bank.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD,  
Oct. 7th, 1891.

73. The *Utkaldipika*, of the 24th October, reports that want of rain-Prospects of the crops in the water has seriously affected the standing rice crop in the Jagatsingpur thana of the Cuttack district, and is of opinion that if it does not rain soon, the people of that thana will be sure to suffer from scarcity of food.

UTKALDIPIKA,  
Oct. 24th, 1891.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
The 14th November 1891.

